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At home we have overcrowded cities growing rapidly into uncontrollable centers of debility and disease; deserted country less and less cultivated every year; compulsory schools, stuffing sickly children with Chinese knowledge and unfitting them for the simplest functions of everyday life; trades-unionized workshops, restricting the supply of skilled labor as well as the output of the skilled laborer; solid, old-fashioned industries dying out, and quick money-making, luxury-breeding schemes taking their places; company promoters and mining speculators by the thousand, but intelligent and enterprising capitalists few and far between.

What can all these sinister developments possibly end in but an economic crisis? And when we have beggared the small islands we live in, how are we to hold the British empire together? Talk of giving preferences to the colonies: we may soon have to appeal to them to save us from our degenerate selves! Our past prosperity we may have owed quite as much to them as to Cobden. The "tribute" of India and the colonies has possibly been of late a larger factor in our national income than we had any suspicion of. If we take no trouble to retain and develop it, but allow ourselves to be thrown back on our insular resources, we may have a rude awakening as to the real extent of our own earning power.

This quotation reflects a mind somewhat pessimistic — perhaps a little more so than is shown in the body of the book — and given to paradoxical and overdrawn statements. While this may be a general fault, the book is extremely interesting, well written, and one of the best surveys, in recent years, of general economic and social conditions and tendencies in Great Britain.

GEORGE MYGATT FISK.

CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

Protection in Germany: A History of German Fiscal Policy during the Nineteenth Century. By WILLIAM HARBUTT DAWSON. Westminster: P. S. King & Son, 1904. 12mo, pp. 259.

Protection in Canada and Australasia. By C. H. CHOMLEY. Westminster: P. S. King & Son, 1904. 12mo, pp. 195.

Protection in France. By H. O. MEREDITH. Westminster: P. S. King & Son, 1904. 12mo, pp. 189.

Protection in the United States: A Study of the Origin and Growth of the American Tariff System and its Economic and Social Influences. By A. MAURICE LOW. Westminster: P. S. King & Son, 1904.

This series deals in a popular way with different phases of the tariff policy of various countries. Each volume is prefaced by a brief summary of the history of protection and free trade, and then follow chapters relating to subjects of special importance to individual countries, such as the protection of agriculture, the protection of manufactures, protection and trade, protection and taxation, the tariff and trusts, protection and politics, labor and wages, protection and industrial welfare, tariff treaties and tariff wars, conclusions, etc.

The books are written primarily for the British public, and go to swell the mass of literature that is appearing at the present time in England in connection with the agitation of the Chamberlain scheme for imperial preferential tariffs. The authors, with varying degrees of success, aim at impartial treatment. Mr. Dawson, the editor of the series and the author of the book relating to Germany, is most successful in this particular. His book is the best of the series. He is much less addicted to the unscientific attitude of trying to make out a case for free trade or protection. From reading the work on Canada and Australasia we are not only led, but compelled, to infer that poor times are due in those countries to protection, while Mr. Low would have us believe that free trade or a tariff for revenue only in the United States is an all-sufficient explanation for the lack of prosperity. For example, at the close of his very brief introductory chapter the author says: "Thus in little more than the first quarter of a century of national existence the relative merits of free trade and protection had been tested, and the advantages of protection had been demonstrated." This is the characteristic attitude of the author throughout the entire work.

In general it may be said that the series is valuable to the Anglo-American public because of a dearth of English works dealing with foreign commercial policies. The books dealing with Germany and France are especially valuable in this connection. The work treating the tariff of the United States has little value for an American reader, since the subject has been better handled by a number of other writers, such as Taussig and Rabbeno.

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Labor Organization among Women. By BELVA MARY HERRON.
(Studies of the University of Illinois.) Urbana: The University Press, 1905. 8vo, pp. 79.